

# Day 2 parallel sessions – key findings

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# Parallel Session 1: Monitoring and evaluation

HepHIV **2019**  
28-30 JANUARY · BUCHAREST

- A study of 6 checkpoints in Southern Europe found that, on average, they were responsible for 4% of the new HIV diagnoses in their countries and 10% of new diagnoses among MSM – **including 18% of all new cases in Greece** (PS1/1)
- Latvia and Estonia had the same rate of new HIV diagnoses in 2016 – the highest in the EU. But **a back-calculation model** revealed that the actual incidence rate in Latvia was almost twice that in Estonia. (PS1/2)
- A survey of community-based sites in 6 EU countries found that 72% of MSM tested for HIV were being tested routinely, rather than in response to risk exposure. This suggests that **HIV testing is becoming normalized among MSM**. (PS1/3)
- After **a multi-stakeholder process was used to develop national standards for partner notification**, UK sexual health clinics tested twice as many contacts per new HIV case, with 18% testing positive (PS1/4)
- A study found that among people attending community-based HIV testing sites in the EU, **reactive HCV tests were strongly associated with injecting drug use and foreign birth**. (PS1/5)

## Parallel Session 2: Combination prevention

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- A study of 32 000 tweets related to PrEP found that overall sentiments were positive, **thanks in part to 23 accounts that tweeted heavily** (“PrEP influencers”). The topics addressed included social stigma and side-effects. *(PS2/1)*
- Structured interviews with cis and trans sex workers in Greece found that HIV infection is associated with **drug injecting, as well as the use of alcohol and other psychoactive substances during sex**. *(PS2/2)*
- In England, back calculations using CD4 counts show that **intensified testing and earlier treatment led to a decline in HIV transmission** among MSM after 2012. PrEP is expected to reduce transmission in this population even more. *(PS2/3)*
- 5000 interviews helped map and characterize populations of **female and trans sex workers and MSM in Istanbul and Ankara** – valuable targeting information in a country where HIV is spreading rapidly and there’s little access to prevention. *(PS2/4)*
- A Portuguese checkpoint provided MSM who tested positive for HIV or an STI **tools to notify partners anonymously via SMS or email** and encourage them to be tested. Total cost for the initiative over three years: €15. *(PS2/5)*